



Representative Louise M. Slaughter
Chairwoman, House Committee on Rules
Representing New York's 28th District

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, May 29, 2008

Rep. Slaughter Participates in Public Meeting to Discuss Priorities for Jefferson Ave. Revitalization

Rochester, NY – Congresswoman Louise M. Slaughter (D-Fairport), Chairwoman of the House Committee on Rules, today participated in a public meeting at the Trinity Emmanuel Presbyterian Church to discuss community priorities for revitalizing Jefferson Avenue. Rep. Slaughter was joined by officials from the City of Rochester, community leaders, business owners, and residents.

In March, a large number of Jefferson Avenue residents and business owners took part in a

public visioning session to sketch a blueprint for the thoroughfare. City planners compiled the ideas generated during the visioning session and reported on the most popular wants and needs of the community at today's meeting.

"I am proud that so many members of our community have rolled up their sleeves, put pens to paper, and come together to decide how our neighborhood should look and function," said Rep. Slaughter. **"Community input and ownership of the Jefferson Avenue revitalization process will ensure that our efforts are sustainable and successful."**

BACKGROUND

Garnering community input on Jefferson Avenue is the first component of the revitalization project. Now that community priorities have been distinguished, University of Rochester graduate students will conduct an economic analysis, city-hired consultants will create street and infrastructure designs, and finally, a master plan will be created and implemented.

In addition to fostering this revitalization process, Rep. Slaughter has worked to ensure that Jefferson Avenue businesses flourish. Rep. Slaughter secured \$100,000 in federal funding for the Urban League of Rochester's Business Development Division to work one-on-one with Jefferson Avenue businesses beginning this summer.

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